

The Innisfree Informer



May 2021

MAXIMUM

30
km/h

SLOW DOWN WHEN PASSING OUR SCHOOL

Per Alberta.ca: When you approach a school or playground sign, with a maximum speed posted with it, you are entering a school and/or playground zone. You must not exceed the posted speed when the zone is in effect. **The speed limit for both urban and rural school zones and playground zones is 30 km/h unless otherwise posted.**

Innisfree Mayor's Message in a Minute

I am pleased to see that most of the residents of Innisfree have been busy in their yards. Thinks are looking very good. Thank you.

I am sorry to see that the library is closed but offering curbside service. Also, to raise funds for the early literacy program, which is still able to operate via pick up from the library, there is a Mother's Day Basket Raffle. Tickets are available from library board members and the library via curbside pickup. The library board would welcome new members.

The museum is hoping to be able to open the May long weekend. There will be a meeting at the museum May 19 at 7:00, p.m. New members are welcome. Innisfree has a lot to showcase in the museum. There is an art gallery in the upstairs of the museum showcasing several local artists. When it is open stop by and check it out.

Continued on Page 2....

While school zone limits are in effect on school days only, the **entire stretch of road past the Delnorte School is also a playground zone!**

Playground speed restrictions are in effect EVERY DAY from 8:30 am to 1 hour after sunset.

Submitted by a concerned citizen

Innisfree Preschool & Kindergarten AGM

The Innisfree ECS AGM is June 1, 2021 @ 7:30 pm in the Kindergarten Room, or Zoom depending on restrictions at that time.

Please call Elise Nott at if you would like to attend, 780-603-1080



Congratulations

Delnorte School Graduating Class of 2021!



Kimberly Feschuk



Veronika Giese



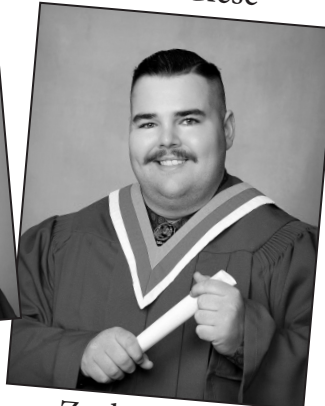
Benjamin Moyen



Tristan Neil



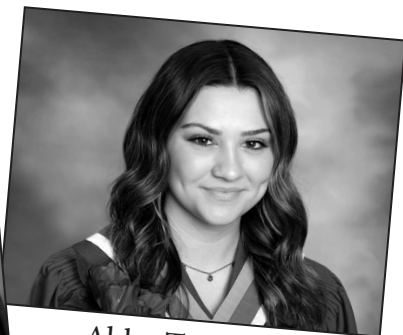
Hayden Sacha



Zachary Ralfs



Tyson Rudolf



Abby Tarapaski

MINDFUL MORNING RITUALS

RENEW: Drink a tall glass of warm water with lemon or key lime juice.

REFRESH: Take a shower and visualize all negative thoughts being washed away.

CONNECT: Connect with your mind, body and spirit through meditation, yoga or dance.

GROUND: Go for a walk out in nature. Inhale and exhale deeply.

MANIFEST: Write down your intentions and priorities for the day.

Mayor's Message in a Minute Continued

Also, we are planning a community wide garage sale on May 8, with AHS restrictions in place. If you would like to join in, please call me @ 780-592-2116 and add your name to the map that will be available for the shoppers that day.

With traveling and visiting being limited over the past year, the Village is opening a community garden on main street. To be included in the garden, please contact the Village office for details. You can enjoy fresh vegetables from your own little bit of work in the community garden.

The Village is also planning and looking forward to the campground opening this year on the long weekend in May. Although the booking of a campsite is not available yet, you may want to start planning and book the best site for yourself later this month. Contact Brooke at the Village office for more information.

Waiting is hard, but please wait! Covid-19 is still around, and we must protect ourselves and others. Many are getting their Covid-19 Vaccines and it is comforting to think they will be protected and safer.

Check updates as they are posted on the Village web site, www.innisfree.ca and Facebook page, Village of Innisfree.

We are in this difficult time together. Be kind to your neighbors and engage in happiness.

Respectfully,

Debbie McMann, *Village of Innisfree Mayor*



April 2021 Village of Innisfree Regular Council Meeting Highlights

Mayor and Council met on April 20, 2021 for their Regular Council meeting via in-person & Electronic attendance.

The Council Agenda package (with attachments – excluding closed session items) can be found at: www.innisfree.ca

Council discussed numerous items, which included:

Delegation(s):

Mayor and Council were presented three (3) delegations at the April 20, 2021 Regular Council meeting. The first delegation was by Greg Sauer, from SkyFire Energy, and presented information regarding the Village of Innisfree's Solar Panel Project. The second delegation was by Carolyn Best, from ATCO Electric, also presented information regarding the Village of Innisfree's Solar Panel Project. The third delegation was by Jeff Alliston, from Metrix Group LLP, and presented the 2020 Financial Statement, 2020 Financial Information Return and 2020 Management Finding's letter.

Business Arising:

- **Motion 2021-03-26/02 – Village of Innisfree Solar Energy Project:** After reviewing the presentation(s) from SkyFire Energy and ATCO Electric, Mayor and Council passed a motion to table this item to the May 18, 2021 Regular Council Meeting.
- **Motion 2021-03-16/16 – MSI Capital Project No. CAP-12594 – Zero Turn John Deere Lawn Mower:** After reviewing the quote received by Agland, Mayor and Council passed a motion to approve the Zero Turn John Deere Lawn Mower Z530M ZTrak at a cost of \$6,100.00 (GST No included).

Bylaws & Policies:

- **665-21 – Chicken Bylaw:** Administration provided Council a “draft” Bylaw outlining rules and regulations to allow residents the option of homing chicken's on their property within Village limits. After reviewing the “Draft” Bylaw, Mayor and Council passed all three (3) readings to Bylaw 665-21 – Chicken Bylaw

New Business:

- **Jard Industrial – Lawn Equipment and Accessories:** Administration provided Council a Quote submitted by Jard Industrial, for the purchasing of Lawn Equipment and Accessories, for our Public Works Department and Campground. After reviewing the quote dated March 17, 2021, Mayor and Council passed a motion approving the purchase of all items at a cost of \$ 2,248.04 (GST Included).
- **2021 Economic Development Week – Community Challenge in Alberta (Email Dated April 17, 2021):** Mayor and Council passed a motion proclaiming May 9-15, 2021 as International Economic Development Week.
- **2020 Audited Financial Statement, 2020 Financial Information Return and 2020 Management Findings Letter:** Metrix Group LLP presented the 2020 Financial Statement, 2020 Financial Information Return and the 2020 Management Findings report. After reviewing the documents, Mayor and Council passed a motion approve all three (3) documents as presented.
- **National Public Works Week May 17-23, 2021:** In recognition of the hard work put forward by the Public Works Department, Mayor and Council proclaimed May 17-23, 2021 as National Public Works Week.
- **Other items discussed:** Bylaw No. 662-20 – Regional Emergency Management, Regional Emergency Management Mutual Aid Agreement, RFD – Request to Waive Penalties – Water & Sewer Services, Vermilion RCMP Detachment – Letter of Acknowledgement, RFD – 2021 Municipal Election – Advance Vote Date, Time and Location, 2021 ACE Water Capital Contribution, Councilor and Administration Reports and Correspondence.

The meeting was then adjourned.

**Why did the scarecrow win the Nobel Prize?
Because he was out standing in his field!**

Innisfree-Minburn 4-H Beef Club

Steer Sale Day

Unfortunately with COVID 19 restrictions in place, we are selling our steers online again this year.

Wednesday, May 26, 2021

DLMS Online Auction
(www.dlms.ca)

2 pm to 7pm

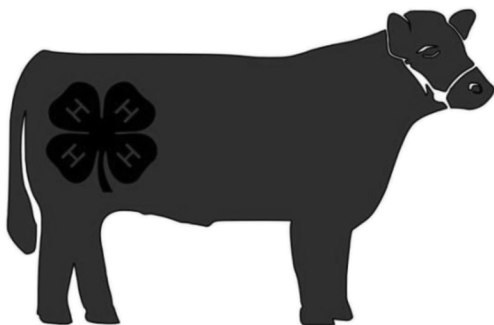
9 choice steers up for Auction

Video/Photos of members showcasing their steers will be on the website to preview.

We have slots booked at local slaughter houses for June butchering

Dylan Cannan
Camille Kassian
Carson Kassian
Tyson Rudolf
Chase Forsyth

Rylan Jackson
Bradley McLaughlin
Alex Nott
Madeline Nott



Please contact Clint McLaughlin for details regarding the sale.

780-870-2435

Thank you for helping support our 4-H program



Do you have a tried and true recipe you want to share? Send it our way to be featured in the Informer!
Email: innisfreeinformer@gmail.com



Please note that masks are now mandatory when in the following places. *Thank you for your consideration.*

**Village of Innisfree Town Office/ATB
Innisfree Post Office
Village of Innisfree Library**



**Mannville – Minburn – Innisfree
Family & Community Support Services
Yellowhead Community Support Society
M-M-I Family Resource Network**

Facebook page: **Mannville-Minburn-Innisfree Family & Community Support Services**
@FCSSmannvilleminburninnisfree
Website: <https://mmifcss.wixsite.com/mmifcss>
Phone: **780-763-3005**
Email: mmifcss@mannville.com
Location: **5004-49 Street Mannville
P.O. Box 534 Mannville T0B 2W0**

M-M-I F.C.S.S. remains committed to "helping people help themselves". We will continue to offer information, referrals, guidance and assistance by PHONE, EMAIL, MAIL, ZOOM & IN PERSON.



Join the challenge! Monthly themes and Prizes!
Text: 780-581-4149 or 780-853-0112
May Theme: SPRING

Family Resource Network

FRN delivers high quality prevention + early intervention services + supports for families with children 0-18 years old. Variety of programs + service, modified program style due to COVID-19.

For Program Information

Call or text Alicia @ 780-581-4149

Facebook Page **MMI Family Resource Network**

Friendly Phone Visiting Program

FCSS Staff provide social connections through phone calls. If you have not received a call and would like to join this program, please call us to be added to our call out list.

What can you expect? a friendly voice, a listening ear, information sharing + referral to other services. We look forward to connecting with you.

S.M.I.L.E. Program


[Seniors Maintaining Independent Living Experiences]
This program is designed for adults/seniors to stay active + live independently in their communities. An inviting, friendly atmosphere to socialize, participate in activities, connect with others!

STAYING CONNECTED BY ZOOM
Time: 10:30 a.m. May 13, 20 & 27
Tues, May 18th: Folk Tales
Everyone welcome!

LET'S TALK: COMMUNITY PRESENTATION

Everyone welcome!
Thurs, May 6th: **PRESENCE 2 with Kerri Lorenson**
ZOOM @10:30 a.m....contact us to join in.

Meals on Wheels Program A delicious hot noon meal is served right to your kitchen table Monday to Friday by friendly volunteers.

 Rate \$10 per meal.
Call + sign up to receive your first meal complimentary.

NEWCOMER WELCOME: Packages are available. Let us know if you are new to the area! Stop by and pick one up! We look forward to welcoming you!

VOLUNTEER APPRECIATION WEEK was celebrated April 18 - 24th

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=1xYi0gKgF9I>
Video Presentation Showcasing:
"The Impact of Volunteerism in our Communities".
Thank you to Gov't of Alberta Culture and Tourism, and Volunteer Alberta funding along with all community organizations and volunteers and ThreeSixty Alberta!
Bagged Hog Dog Lunch to Go postponed until a later date.

FCSS has been offering Virtual Programs to the Children & Youth in the schools. These programs enhance empathy, life skills, build confidence and create awareness. Keep up the great work Students!
:Roots of Empathy - Thanks to the students for a wonderful year getting to know Baby Berk!
:Money Mentors – Learning about money
:Babysitters Course – enhancing confidence and life skills

Summer Employment

FCSS summer employment opportunities may be available for July and August. Students 16 years of age and older
Details coming soon.....

The Innisfree Municipal Seed Cleaning Association Ltd.

would like to acknowledge Terry Dmytriw for his 30 years of service to the co-op seed and grain processing industry.

Our organization is stronger and well positioned to tackle future shareholder needs because of your hard work & dedication.

On behalf of the Board Members, County Reps, shareholders, management and staff: We thank you!



Innisfree-Minburn 4-H Beef Club Report

Submitted by Rylan Jackson, Club Reporter

On April 13 we met to work on projects. We had one member give a presentation to the club as well.

Congratulations to our Senior member Tyson Rudolf for winning the first ever 4H Alberta Provincial Public Speaking Competition on ZOOM! You can watch his speech on the 4-H Alberta YouTube channel in the coming weeks.

We will be cleaning up the Minburn Ag Society grounds as our community service this year during the month of May.

Our 4H Achievement day will happen at the end of May. We are hopeful that we will be able to have just judges and members attend.

Sale day will be May 26, 2021 as a DLMS Farmgate Auction and run from 2 pm to 7 pm. All members will have a videos and write ups about their 4H projects online for the public to view. Thank you for your support.

Our tentative date for our next meeting is May 11 pending COVID restrictions at that time.



I don't need red dyes to be attracted to your feeders!

All it does is slowly kill me!

Just please only give me 4 parts water with 1 part table sugar! Thank You!

Be yourself. Let people see the real, imperfect, flawed, quirky, weird, beautiful and magical person you are.



Fun Fact: Cotton candy was invented by a dentist.

C At an Alabama police station, Bubba explained to the police officer why his cousins shot him. "Well,"

OUTDOOR Bubba began, "We wuz havin' a good time

R drinking, when my cousin Ray picked up his shotgun and

N said, 'Hey, der ya fellows wanna go hunting?'"

E "And then what happened?" the officer interrupted.

R "As I remember," Bubba said, "I stood up and said, 'Sure, I'm game.'"

Oh...PINIONS

A bird watcher walks into a bar and orders a beer.

"I've always wondered, what's the difference between a crow and a raven?" the bartender asks. "Well, ravens and crows both have large feathers on their wings called 'pinions.' Ravens have 4 pinions on each wing while crows only have 3," the bird watcher replies."

...So if you think about it, it's just a matter of a pinion."



OUTDOOR CORNER is sponsored by:
PARANYCH CONSULTING 403-506-4667

Submissions for the Outdoor Corner are welcome.
 Hunting, fishing and outdoor stories, facts or jokes!
 Email: innisfreeinformer@gmail.com



Is someone special celebrating in June?

Send in your
JUNE Birthdays & Anniversaries!

Please send birthday or anniversary names and dates by
 May 25 to wish your loved ones a special day!
 Email to: innisfreeinformer@gmail.com

Innisfree Seed Cleaning Plant
NOW CARRYING COMMON ALFALFA SEED

Other grasses & lawn seed also available.

Call for more information

780-592-3875

Innisfree, Alberta

What is a Happy Farmers favorite candy?
 A Jolly Rancher.

HAIL INSURANCE

Agent for:

CANADIAN HAIL

PALLISER HAIL

Frank - 780-592-3933

Q: What did the baby corn say to the mama corn? A: Where's popcorn?

EVENTS CALENDAR

Here's What's Happening!

May 5: Village of Innisfree Library Board Meeting

May 18: Village Council Meeting

See our web page and Facebook page for more information

May 19: Innisfree Historical Society Meeting

May 25: Innisfree Delnorte Parent Council Meeting

May 26: Innisfree-Minburn 4-H Beef Sale

Please send your event info (name, date, location) by May 25 to be included in the June Calendar of Events

**SUBDIVISION AND DEVELOPMENT APPEAL BOARD
 REQUEST FOR MEMBERS OF PUBLIC AT LARGE**

The Village of Innisfree requires two (2) members of public at large for the Subdivision and Development Appeal Board. This quasi-judicial body, appointed by Council, makes impartial and unbiased decisions on challenges of subdivision or development authority decisions and stop work orders. Deliberations are based on the municipal planning documents such as the Land Use Bylaw and Municipal Development Plans, provincial statute and information presented by hearing participants.

Subdivision and Development Appeal Board hearings are scheduled as required. Board members are appointed for a one (1) year term with an option to be reappointed for a second term.

Village residents with an interest or experience in planning or development activities are invited to submit a resume including a statement on your interest and abilities in serving in this capacity.

Mandatory training is required upon appointment.

Position's will remain open until suitable candidates are found.

Please mail, fax, email or drop off resumes to:

Subdivision and Development Appeal Board
 Attn: Brooke Magosse, Clerk
 Box 69, 5116 50 Avenue
 Innisfree, AB T0B 2G0
 F: 780-592-3729
 E: cao@innisfree.ca

WANTED: #9 or #10

MASSEY FERGUSON



SQUARE BALER

Call 1-780-592-2137

Fun Fact: The characters Bert and Ernie on Sesame Street were named after Bert the cop and Ernie the taxi driver in Frank Capra's "It's a Wonderful Life."

Kids helpline # 1-800-668-6868
Mental Health Helpline #
1-877-303-2642

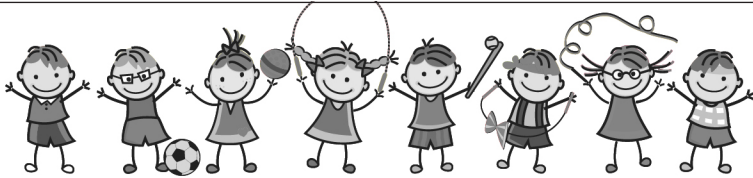


The Village of Innisfree Mayor, Council and staff would like to congratulate the Innisfree Delnorte graduating Class of 2021



Happy Birthday!
May 1: Kelly Fowler
May 2: Reid Broadhead
May 2: Hayden Isley
May 4: Marilyn Kuzio
May 9: Lemonee Kostynuk
May 10: Lorrie Hennig
May 10: Ray Mercer
May 12: Steve Nott

May 14: Kendall Jackson
May 15: Krystin Cannan
May 16: Eldon Kostynuk
May 19: Genevieve Weder
May 20: Dwayne Fowler
May 20: Donna Saskiw
May 24: Dalyce Morris
May 26: Arnold Usenik
May 27: Brandon Feschuk
May 29: Madeline Nott
May 31: Tanielle Sullivan



Innisfree Preschool & Kindergarten Registration 2021/22

Registration deadline is June 1, 2021

Kindergarten: *Child must be 5 years old by
December 30, 2021*

Preschool: *Child must be 4 years old
December 30, 2021*

To register please email:
innisfreeecs@gmail.com
or call Elise Not: 780-603-1080

*We have a wonderful privately run
Kindergarten & Preschool.*

Can you relate?:

**Today I plan on being as
useless as the G in Lasagna**

Library News

Mother's Day Basket Raffle tickets are now on sale until May 7th. Tickets are \$2.00 each and can be purchased from the Library or Village Office. The draw will take place at the Village Office on May 10th. Proceeds from this raffle will support our Early Literacy Program.

We are hiring! We are looking for a Summer Student to fill the position of Library Aide. Please submit your resumes by email or in person at the library. For more information on what the job details, please check our website and Facebook page, email or call.

Currently, we are only offering curbside pickup and drop off for our patrons. Our weekly van run is still going, delivering new items to our patrons. We are hoping to be able to open with the next round of the Government's Path Forward Plan. Until then, keep updated via our Facebook page, Twitter, and our website.

We are still making our Early Literacy Program kits for families to take home each month. These kits are full of tools to help with gross and fine motor skills, numerical and literacy skills; as well as crafts, snack ideas, games and other fun activities.

This is a great opportunity to use some of the free online resources we have available that are included in your membership. You can visit our website at www.innisfreelibrary.ca to see what there is. Magazines, books, movies, curriculum study guides and kids 'live' books are only a few of the great resources available.

Please contact me with any questions. 780-592-2122 or librarian@innisfreelibrary.ca. We will keep you updated as we get more information.

Marilyn Newton, Library Manager

Village of Innisfree Community Wide Garage Sales



Date: May 8, 2021
Time: 9:00 to 4:00

Several garage sales around the village. Maps available.

Covid-19 Best practices in place
Collectibles, Kitchen Items, Toys, Clothing, Tools,
Jewelery, Camping Equipment, Puzzles, Records,
Movies, Books, Plants, Dishes, Tools, Furniture,
and many new items

Canada Summer Jobs Employment Opportunity



The Village of Innisfree is now hiring for the following “Temporary” position(s):

1 x Public Works Labourer
1 x Campground Labourer

Applicants **MUST** be between the age of 15 and 30 in order to be considered for the Canada Summer Job position(s).

Employment may start as early as July 05, 2021 and will end no later than August 27, 2021

Public Works/Campground Labourer:

The Village of Innisfree is looking to hire one (1) Public Works Labourer and one (1) Campground Labourer to help with maintenance and up-keep throughout the community.

Duties shall include:

- Heavy lifting;
- lawn mowing;
- digging, raking; and
- cleaning of facilities, etc.

The successful candidate will:

- possess a valid class 5 driver’s license
- necessary skills to operate heavy equipment such as a Skid Steer and tractor would be considered an asset,
- ability to perform physical labour
- good mechanical aptitude
- be a “team player”.

The position’s will be held open until suitable candidate(s) are found.

Only those selected for interviews will be contacted.

Interested applicants may submit their resume to:

Attn: Brooke Magosse, CAO
Village of Innisfree
Box 69
Innisfree, Alberta T0B 2G0

Fax: 780-592-3729

Email: cao@innisfree.ca

For more information contact the Village Office at 780-592-3886 or email admin@innisfree.ca.



FURNITURE & HOUSEHOLD SALE

Double pedestal solid oak table, extends to 84”, width 44”, 7 chairs, including 1 captains chair, excellent condition. \$600 OBO

Other household furniture in great shape, please call to view - by appointment only

Louise Bohaichuk 780-592-2196

2021 Municipal Election

Nomination Packages for the 2021 Municipal Election are available on our website: <https://www.innisfree.ca/governance/2021-municipal-election> or by contacting the Village Administration Office at 780-592-3886 or via email: cao@innisfree.ca. Hard copies of the nomination packages are also available upon request.



NOMINATION DEADLINE: 12:00 PM (Noon) on September 20, 2021

ELECTION DAY: 10:00 AM – 8:00 PM on October 18, 2021

For additional information regarding the 2021 Municipal Election, please contact the Village Administration Office or visit: <https://www.alberta.ca/municipal-elections-overview.aspx>

There’s a man at an outdoor bar who orders one pint of beer for himself and 10 for his giraffe... He continues to do this throughout the night. When he heads home, the giraffe stands up but then topples over because of how drunk he is. The bartender says “Hey! You can’t leave that lying there!” The man then says “It’s not a lion, it’s a giraffe!”

NO BAKE CHEESECAKE

Graham Cracker Crust:

- 2 cups graham cracker crumbs
- 1/3 cup packed light or dark brown sugar
- 1/2 cup unsalted butter, melted

Cheesecake:

- 1 and 1/4 cups heavy cream or heavy whipping cream
- Three 8-ounce blocks full-fat cream cheese, softened to room temp
- 1/2 cup granulated sugar
- 2 Tbsp confectioners' sugar
- 1/4 cup sour cream, at room temp
- 2 tsp lemon juice
- 1 tsp pure vanilla extract

Directions:

CRUST:

Stir the graham cracker crust ingredients together. Pour into a 9 or 10" springform pan and pack in very tightly. The tighter it's packed, the less likely it will fall apart when cutting the cheesecake. Freeze for 10-20 minutes as you prepare the filling.

FILLING:

- Using a hand mixer or a stand mixer fitted with a whisk attachment, whip the cold heavy cream into stiff peaks on medium-high speed, about 4-5 minutes. Set aside.
- In a separate bowl, beat the cream cheese and granulated sugar together on medium speed until perfectly smooth and creamy. Scrape down the sides and up the bottom of the bowl with a rubber spatula as needed. Add the confectioners' sugar, sour cream, lemon juice, and vanilla extract. Beat for 2-3 minutes on medium-high speed until smooth and combined. Make sure there are no large lumps of cream cheese. If there are lumps, keep beating until smooth.
- Using your mixer on low speed or a rubber spatula, fold the whipped cream into the cheesecake filling until combined. This takes several turns of your rubber spatula. Combine slowly as you don't want to deflate all the air in the whipped cream.
- Remove crust from the freezer and spread filling into crust. Use a spatula to smooth down the top.
- Cover tightly with plastic wrap or aluminum foil and refrigerate for at least 6-8 hours and up to 2 days. For best results, 12 hours is best. The longer refrigerated, the nicer the no-bake cheesecake will set up.
- Use a knife to loosen the chilled cheesecake from the rim of the springform pan, then remove the rim. Using a clean sharp knife, cut into slices for serving.
- Serve cheesecake with desired toppings (canned cherries, fresh preserves, chocolate fudge, whatever you like!)

Cheesecake



Attention all past customers!

In honor of their 15th Anniversary, Ron & Holly will be offering a 15% discount on your next booking

(a 2 night minimum) Note: Reservations are required.

Call 780-592-3840

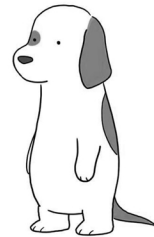
To reserve
your room(s)

The Beachside
Bed and Breakfast
"On Wapusu Lake"

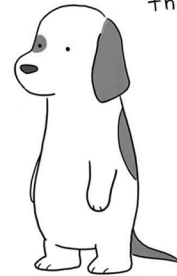
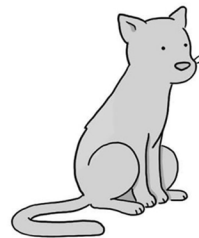


Be sure to ask how you can
extend that discount forever!

did you know that
cats were considered
sacred in ancient egypt?
we were a symbol of
grace and poise.

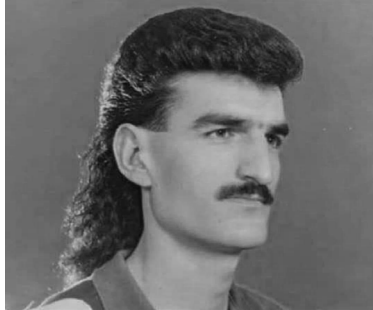


did you know
that I'm a very
good boy



**CABLE REPAIRMAN
WAS ON THE STREET
AND ASKED ME
WHAT TIME IT WAS.
I TOLD HIM BETWEEN
8AM AND 1PM.**

BUSINESS IN THE FRONT



**SMALL GATHERINGS OF UP TO 8
PEOPLE FROM NO MORE THAN 2
HOUSEHOLDS IN THE BACK.**

FOR SALE

New 40 Gallon Gas
Hot Water Tank.
Still in the box.
\$600

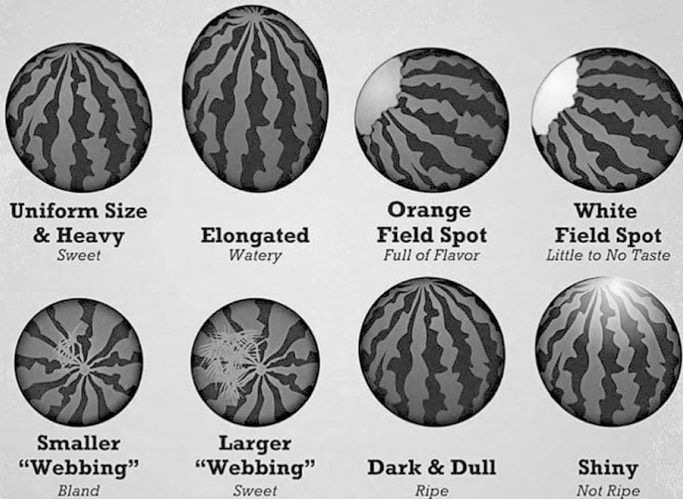
Call Stan
780-658-2330

12 sheets of 5/8"
OSB 4x8 tongue
& groove sheets.

New for
\$60/sheet

**Based on the amount of laundry
I do each week, I'm beginning to
think there are people who live
here that I haven't met yet!**

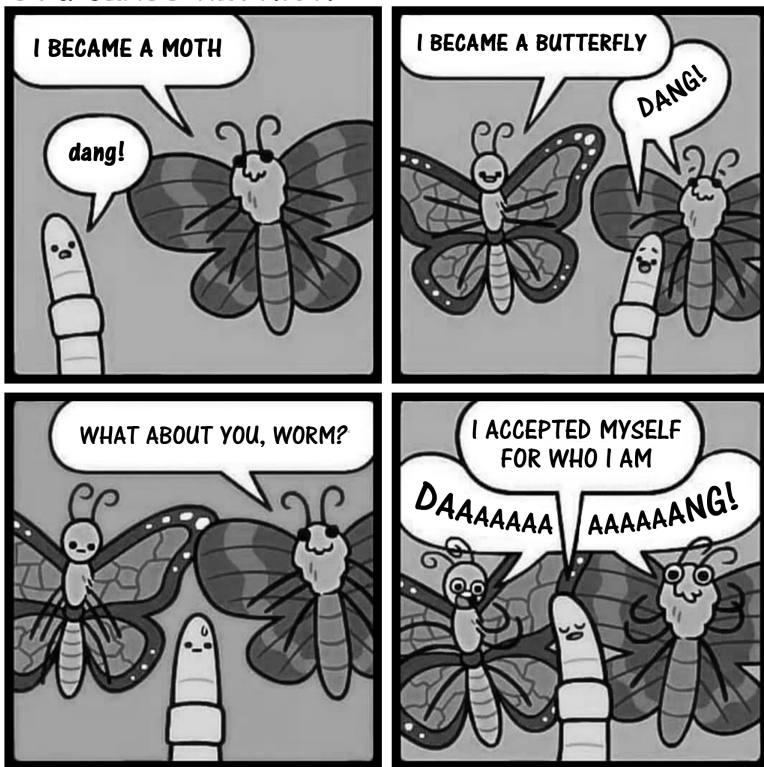
How to Pick a Perfect Watermelon



WORD SEARCH: Gardening!

O	R	P	L	A	N	T	S	I	V	O	V	S	E
R	A	I	N	O	B	G	E	O	G	E	G	R	G
S	E	G	S	E	S	S	H	N	G	A	S	E	N
S	E	S	E	E	S	S	E	R	F	O	W	S	
G	O	E	U	S	N	R	T	D	E	L	L	O	G
N	S	I	D	G	E	A	E	S	G	N	E	L	T
I	G	D	L	S	B	N	S	S	A	G	G	F	S
R	L	N	I	L	I	D	E	S	G	N	E	T	S
E	O	T	E	G	W	O	P	W	E	A	L	N	T
T	V	S	R	R	G	N	D	E	L	E	D	V	N
A	E	S	S	S	E	I	R	G	E	G	R	O	W
W	S	N	O	S	A	G	N	N	O	O	E	G	E
E	S	O	H	E	S	E	G	G	E	S	E	E	A
S	U	N	S	H	I	N	E	E	R	I	N	I	E

BUG CLASS REUNION



WATERING
SOIL
FLOWERS
GROW
SEEDS

GREEN
GARDEN
HOSE
RAIN

PLANTS
GLOVES
SUNSHINE
VEGETABLES
DIGGING

Q: What new crop did the farmer plant?

A: Beets me!

Q: What grows under your nose?

A: Tulips!

Q: Where do farmers send their kids to grow?

A: Kinder-garden



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2021 The Year of the Tree... by Deb Barber

Or to be more correct the year of tree removal on our farm! It started quite simply when we decided to remove a grove of old saskatoon bushes that were diseased and no longer producing. Farmer Hubby armed with his trusty chain saw and me armed with, well I guess just brute strength, began the task of cutting and removing the aged and decrepit tree trunks of once vibrant and fruit bearing branches. Huffing and puffing I pulled, dragged and hauled them away as the chain saw roared its way through the once thick and dense foliage. After an afternoon of muscle and sweat surprisingly we made a huge hole in the job and the yard already looked cleaner for the effort. A few days of axe pick work and chains pulling out stubborn root systems and the area is almost ready to start the process to cultivate and level the ground for the seeding of new grass (like we need any more of that to mow!)



Soon I saw Farmer Hubby eyeing up some of the old pine trees that his father must have planted close to 75 years ago. They have grown all twisted and knotty and now have turned a sickly hue of yellow with their needles browning off and starting to shed and so the decision was made to take them out as well.

When they stand there looking so majestic and reaching to the sky, they do look like they go on forever, but once you take them down you can genuinely appreciate how tall they had grown to be. I always find it interesting to look at the growth rings on the stumps, I could see that there had been many years of

ideal conditions allowing the trees to grow larger and hearty, but the last few inches from the outer bark were so dark and tiny that it confirmed that they have been struggling to remain alive for some time.

Thankfully, Mother Nature has a solution, and the circle of life continues to provide as there are many small evergreen trees already struggling to grow in the shade of these older trees that will now benefit from the space and sunlight.

While Farmer Hubby was working his magic with the chain saw and in between helping him load up branches and trunks to haul away with the pickup I found myself looking at the tangled mess that the lilac bushes had become. I have no idea when they were planted but I suspect they probably are all of 50 years old as well. For the last few years, they too have not prospered with fewer and fewer bunches of flowers and looking frail and sickly. Googling how to rejuvenate old lilacs I found that the information on my iPhone recommended that they be cut back to 6-8 inches above ground and allowed to regrow. I grabbed my pruning shears and tried to attack the mess. A moment or two later Farmer Hubby stepped in with his chain saw and 'had at it'. We have been left with an interesting mess as some of the wood appears to have been dead for years and of course the very young and slender saplings bent and twisted in the chain of the saw. It is apparent that I will need to go in with the pruners and do some clean up! I have NO idea if anything will survive the slaughter but worse case scenario, we will have to remove the bottom 8 inches left behind.

It is interesting to see how the removal of some trees and bushes has opened up

and changed the entire look of the yard. I find it difficult to implement change as I have such an attachment to the history of the original homesite. However, change is inevitable and is not necessarily a bad thing.

A neighbour had been sharing with us that they had invested a number of years ago in a leaf/grass vacuum and how helpful they found it for spring clean up. Farmer Hubby had inquired if I thought I would like something like this as the 'raking' of the lawns has become a huge chore that I no longer undertake with the enthusiasm of youth! I thought the idea held good merit and so he set out to locate one. It arrived just before the snow all melted and we both were anxious to give it a try. I have to say it has been a great addition to our equipment arsenal and works so well that after operating it for about 1 hour I discovered Farmer Hubby 'took' over the chore and I haven't operated it since. Not only does the yard look fresh and the grass greening up nicely, the finely chopped leaves were put onto the cultivation around the raspberries and once worked in have added a good amount of organic matter to soil that had the consistency of cement and now is fluffy and light.



If you enjoy a weekly dose of Farm Wife humour please check out my blog at <https://farmwifediary.blog>



Hey kids! Are you an artist, writer, inventor, or all around creative kid? The Informer wants to hear from you! Email your submissions for a chance to be featured each month!

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May 25, 2021 is the June Informer deadline for submissions.
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